Working in the UK after graduation

Deputy Head of Careers & Enterprise
Abi Sharma
What you will gain from today

✓ Be able to explain the recruitment process in the UK

✓ Be able to identify the most effective methods of finding UK work

✓ Be able to list resources that can help you in your job search
What’s the difference between a graduate scheme and a graduate job

Graduate scheme

- No. of applicants
- No. of jobs

- Apply 6-12 months before start
- Most recruit once/year for next year
- Find them on milkround/targetjobs
- In large companies only

Graduate level jobs

- No. of applicants
- No. of jobs

- Apply 1 month before start (from May 2015)
- Recruit all year round
- NOT listed on milkround/targetjobs
- In SMEs and in large companies
GRADUATE SCHEMES

- paid employment with training built into the job
- join with a group of others
- fast track learning via lots of training so you can take on responsibility sooner
- often require a 2:1
- some rotate around departments before specialise
- 1-4 years across all sectors
- may involve a professional qualification
- apply Aug – Jan before graduation
GRADUATE LEVEL JOBS

• In an SME
• Advertised as ‘suitable for a recent graduate’ or ‘trainee’ role
• Training is on the job
• Can get responsibility quickly
• Recruitment process: CV & cover letter, interview(s)
• Start applying 3 months before graduation
Applying for a paid job in the UK

**Graduate training scheme – large company**

- Application form, psychometric test
- Telephone Interview
- Assessment centre
- Job offer: Sept after graduation start

**Graduate level job – SME**

- CV, cover letter
- Interview
- Job offer: immediate start

**From May 2016**

1-2 months average

**August 2016-Jan 2017**

8-12 months average
Where can you find vacancies?

In pairs make two lists:
1) Places you could find graduate scheme vacancies
2) Places you can find graduate job vacancies

Don’t just say ‘google it’ – give specific websites

Feedback
Where can you find grad level jobs?

- Newspapers – national/local
- Sector specific job websites – see industry guides on QMPlus Careers
- LinkedIn
- GoingGlobal – international
- [www.careers.qmul.ac.uk/jobs](http://www.careers.qmul.ac.uk/jobs)
- Word of mouth
- Twitter
How do you know it’s a graduate level job?

✓ Job title may contain ‘trainee’ / ‘assistant’ / ‘junior’

✓ Salary 18-22K

✓ ‘Suitable for a recent graduate’

✓ No/little previous experience required
Where can you find graduate scheme vacancies?

- Targetjobs
- Milkround
- Graduate recruitment bureau
- www.careers.qmul.ac.uk/jobs
What do UK employers want?

“What we see in survey after survey is employers saying qualifications are important …but that just as important to us are so-called soft skills, character skills, the ability to get on with different people, to articulate yourself clearly, confidence, grit, self-control. They are saying we are not seeing enough of this in kids coming out of school.”

Nick Hurd, former Minister for Civil Society
"Business is clear that developing the right attitudes and attributes in people - such as resilience, respect, enthusiasm and creativity - is just as important as academic or technical skills."

Neil Carberry, CBI director for employment and skills
What skills do companies look for when hiring new candidates?

1st: communication
3rd: team player
5th: confidence
6th: analytical

24th: technical knowledge

http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/universityeducation/1099619/Soft-skills-valued-over-technical-knowledge-in-graduates.html
Your USP!

"More and more employers are wanting graduates to have a 'global mindset', which means understanding different cultures and how industries work across borders."

Stephen Isherwood, Chief Executive of the Association of Graduate Recruiters.

http://www.theguardian.com/education/2014/feb/04/skills-graduates-need-students-employability
Good academic record

Work experience

Evidence of soft skills

JOB

Regular/structured interests and hobbies

Part time job / off campus responsibilities

QMSU volunteering, active society membership, course rep/PASS mentor
Need some more evidence?
It’s challenging....

...so maximise your chances
- Get part-time work/work experience with a company during studies ....

…..full time sponsorship after?
Ashlesh, Indian Student  
MSc Advanced Management Practice

I did my placement at Activinstinct Ltd. For the first two months I worked in the finance department as a financial executive, after which I was offered the opportunity to work directly under the COO on a project-based role. After the completion of my placement I was offered a permanent role in the company as an information officer, which I gladly accepted.
Ibukun, Nigerian Student Engineering Masters

I was networked by a friend with London Overground and got a part time job with them during my final year to manage a number of technical engineering projects. At the end of the year they offered to take me on full time and applied for a sponsor’s licence so they could sponsor my visa and employ me.
Identify employers who might sponsor you
• Cross check whether the first is a licensed sponsor here https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/register-of-licensed-sponsors-workers

• If not, raise it in the cover letter or in the interview – your choice when

• Refer to the Guide to Employing an International Student on Careers QMPlus to understand what the employer needs to think about
No joy?

Investigate Tier 5 visas
- up to 1 year UK work

“I had a chance to talk to you in October regarding the Tier 5 visa process, and the most efficient way to find an internship, so I just want to thank you for your time and advice since I found a company that is willing to hire me. We went through the whole process with Mrs Zenia Chopra, and I officially start on Monday. Once again, thank you so much for everything!” SBM Masters Graduate 2015

Tomorrow – 1-2.30pm, Access Tier 5, Bancroft 1.02.06
Employment Geographies of 2013/14 leavers

- Work UK:
  - PG: 11
  - UG: 5

- Work Overseas:
  - PG: 200
  - UG: 35
How important it is to maintain your home networks when you are studying overseas?

‘It is highly important and the contacts should be relevant to your area of study’.
- Shahryar, Assistant Manager at Inbox Business Technologies in Pakistan

‘My current vacancy was not an open one, my CV was sent to the HR department by my friend who already worked there for a year’
- Nikita Lebedev, Russian Banking and Finance graduate 2015
How can we help you?

Coming soon: job search guides for QM students returning to India, Russian, Malaysia, Pakistan and China

Jobs/internships database for international jobs
www.careers.qmul.ac.uk/students/jobhunting
http://www.apply.eu/

Read our blog post: http://goo.gl/DQEOqV

Non-EU citizens who are graduates
Further Support

QMPlus careers pages – resources, practice psychometric tests, practice interview software

Book Application Appointment, Careers Appointment or Mock interview – call 020 7882 8533, or book in person in WG3

Attend employer skills training
www.careers.qmul.ac.uk/events

Come into WG3, Queens and talk to our information team!